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approximate size of the French army before 1635"; "The French army from 1635 to 1642"; "CONCLUSION"; "PART II The administrative context"; "4 Paying for war"; "CROWN REVENUES AND THE COSTS OF THE WAR-EFFORT"; "THE INADEQUACY OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES"; "The burden of deficit finance"; "SHORTAGE OF SPECIE AND PROBLEMS OF CONVERSION"; "Corruption"; "Corruption within the administration of the armies"; "The predators"
"THE IMPLICATIONS OF FINANCIAL INADEQUACY FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING TO THE ARMIES"
"The use of assigned revenues"; "The surintendants' order of priorities and military contributions"; "The introduction of new taxes"; "5 Recruiting and maintaining armies during the Thirty Years War: military enterprise"; "THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SYSTEM"; "The military enterpriser in the Thirty Years War"; "The 'contributions-system'"; "The entrepreneurial 'way of warfare'"; "FRENCH RESPONSES TO MILITARY ENTERPRISE"; "Political fears"; "The French monarchy and foreign mercenaries"
"Saxe-Weimar and 'general contractors' in French service"

Sommario/riassunto

It is assumed widely that 'war made the state' in seventeenth-century France. Yet this study challenges the traditional interpretations of the role of the army as an instrument of the emerging absolutist state, and shows how the expansion of the French war effort contributed to weakening Richelieu's hold upon France. Runner up in the History Today Awards 2002.
